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CANADA AT WAR

No. 12

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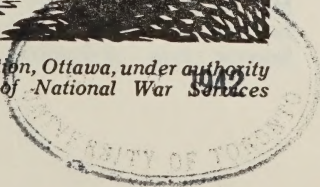
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CONTENTS

	PAGE
CANADA'S COMMITMENTS.....	3
<i>Aid to the United Nations in Men, Foodstuffs and Weapons</i>	
THE ARMED FORCES.....	4
<i>Enlistment Program For 1942—Manpower for the Services</i>	
Casualties.....	5
<i>Hong Kong Losses Indicated by Japan</i>	
The Navy.....	6
<i>H.M.C.S. Corvette "Spikenard" Lost by Enemy Action— British Tribute to Naval Help</i>	
The Army.....	6
<i>90,000 to 100,000 Men to be Enlisted in next fiscal Year— Recruiting System Changed—Cadet Corps Movement</i>	
The Air Force.....	8
<i>Canadian Airmen Reaching Front in "Staggering Numbers"—Figure Prominently in Recent Actions</i>	
THE HOME FRONT.....	8
Finance.....	8
<i>\$3,500 Millions Budget for 1943 fiscal year</i>	
War Charities.....	9
<i>Group of Major War Charities to be Financed by Dominion Treasury</i>	
Controlling Prices.....	10
<i>Consumer Representation Branch Forms—All "Frills" Being Cut Out of Merchandise—Cost-of-Living Bonus</i>	
Women in War Industry.....	12
<i>75,000 Women Now in War Industry—Play Important Role in Boosting Production</i>	
WAR HIGHLIGHTS OF 1941.....	14
HIGH FLIGHT.....	15

CANADA'S COMMITMENTS

"No person can doubt that Canada is committed to total war. We are committed to it not only for the survival of freedom generally but for our own survival and for the survival of this nation, and for the security of our homes and families. To wage total war is the stated policy of the government and I believe, indeed I am sure that it is the determined purpose of the Canadian people."

*Defence Minister J. L. Ralston,
February 10, 1942.*

CANADA'S commitments for the survival of freedom in the world embrace the help being extended to the other 25 United Nations fighting the totalitarian aggressors. As a member of this global team, the nation is shaping its pattern for total war according to the needs of the team as a whole. The Dominion's contribution to the United Nations' war cause is in three main categories:

- (1) The production of food
- (2) The production of material and weapons of war, and;
- (3) The production of men for the armed forces to crush the Axis on sea, on land, and in the air.

It is Canada's commitment to supply foodstuffs to the limit of her resources.

By the end of 1942 the Dominion will be approaching the visible limit of material and management in making materials and weapons of war, with approximately 700,000 workers engaged directly and indirectly in this part of the war program.

Canada has in war theatres three fighting forces; the Navy, Army and Air Force.

It is the Dominion's purpose to raise a navy limited only by the number of ships which can be secured.

The Air Force, considered probably the greatest military contribution of the nation, is beginning to make itself felt in the air battles of the world.

The nation's objective in land forces is to raise and equip, to reinforce and maintain a highly motorized and mechanized force, hard-hitting, complete and second to none.

THE ARMED FORCES

LIKE the nature of warfare itself, the type of armed forces trained by the Dominion has changed vastly from the First Great War. In 1914-18 Canada's military manpower was overwhelmingly earth-bound, foot-slogging infantry. This time there are three large and important services making their demands upon Canadian manpower; calling for an infinitely greater quantity and variety of equipment and a much greater degree of technical training than the Canadian forces of a generation ago.

This time there is a much larger Navy; growing rapidly, and limited only by the number of ships available. The Navy can use many more keen and young men.

This time the Great War role of infantry is all but a memory. Canada is raising, equipping, reinforcing and maintaining the most highly mechanized and mobile army in the world.

This time air strength is the third arm of military might. Its presence is essential to the successful operation of the other two arms. From the outset Canada has concentrated on making the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan one of the Dominion's most important military contributions. By nature of geography and resources in young manpower, Canada has been a highly suitable place for the development of this Empire enterprise.

Enlistments in the armed services at the end of 1941; program for 1942 fiscal year, and total prospective enlistments at March 31, 1943, follow:

	Enlistments	1942 Program	Prospective at March 31, 1943.
Navy.....	27,000	13,000— 13,000	40,000— 40,000
Army.....	295,000	90,000—100,000	385,000—395,000
Air Force.....	100,000	70,000— 80,000	170,000—180,000

NOTE:—These figures are for enlistments only and do not indicate the number of men actually on strength at a given date. There will be men discharged from the services for medical or other reasons and casualties, which will accordingly diminish these figures when the actual strength of the forces is being considered.

The practice of showing approximate figures of armed strength regularly in this booklet is being dropped in the interest of national security.

There are, in addition, a rapidly increasing number of women serving in the armed forces: in the Canadian Women's Army Corps and the Royal Canadian Air Force (Women's Division). There are more than 1,500 in the former and more than 2,000 in the latter.

Casualties

THE Japanese Government has relayed a message to the Canadian Government stating that there were 1,689 Canadians prisoners of war taken when the Hong Kong garrison fell December 25, 1941. The number which embarked for Hong Kong was 1,985, and therefore it is believed that 296 Canadians are either dead or missing.

This was the first major test of the Canadian Army in the present war. Losses were the largest incurred at one time by any of the Canadian armed forces in the present war. A battalion of the Royal Rifles of Canada and the Winnipeg Grenadiers were the Canadian units which took part in the engagement.

Without taking into consideration the Hong Kong casualties the armed forces have incurred the following losses to the end of February:

Navy

Killed on active service.....	461
Other deaths.....	52
Total Dead.....	513

Army*

OVERSEAS

Killed by enemy action*.....	49
Died (all causes).....	477
Missing.....	3

IN CANADA

Deaths (all causes).....	542
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Total Dead and Missing*.....	1,071
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Air Force

Killed.....	1,036
Died.....	112
Missing.....	457

Total Dead and Missing.....	1,605
Prisoners and Interned.....	144

*TOTAL (ALL FORCES) DEAD AND MISSING.....	3,189
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*Does not include Hong Kong casualties.

The Navy

LOSS by enemy action of the Canadian corvette "Spikenard" brings the loss of the R.C.N. in these sturdy little vessels to three, and total loss in ships to seven. All five officers and 52 of the 60 ratings on board were lost, bringing total of men killed on active service to 461.

H.M.C.S. "Spikenard", named after a Canadian wild-flower commonly found in the Gatineau district of Quebec, has been to sea for many weeks when she was lost in the North Atlantic. Like many similar sister ships the "Spikenard" was guarding the vital sea-lanes to Great Britain.

Britain's First Lord of the Admiralty referred to such ships and men as these when he lauded the forces assisting the Royal Navy in its "fearful task" of preserving the freedom of the seas for the United Nations:

"We must not, and shall not, forget the contribution from Australia and New Zealand in cruisers and destroyers, from Canadian destroyers and corvettes, from South African minesweepers and from men who have come from Newfoundland, the Crown Colonies and elsewhere, to help man the vessels of the Royal Navy."

Canadian naval vessels, since the outbreak of war, have assisted in convoying more than 9,000 vessels from Canadian shores, carrying more than 55 million tons of cargo.

Lending invaluable support to the greatly extended work of the Canadian Navy is the Fishermen's Reserve. Out on the Pacific Coast these peacetime fishermen are voluntarily protecting their home waters against submarines and mines and looking for any signs of enemy activity.

The Fishermen's Reserve, organized in 1938, uses the boats they made their living in during peacetime—small wooden halibut and salmon fishing boats. They are now painted grey, and equipped with wireless, machine guns and paravanes.

The Army

THE problems of Canadian defence are more prominently before Canadians than ever before. The Canadian army program for the current year emphasizes this aspect of the Dominion's armed effort.

The program calls for the organization of an army of two corps overseas. This will provide for the enlistment of 90,000 to 100,000 men during the present fiscal year. In addition to men for overseas, the army must train about 40,000 to 50,000 men for service in Canada. Arrangements are being made to bring back instructors from overseas to train the new men.

When the present program is complete the Canadian army overseas will probably have a greater proportion of armored strength than any other army in the world. This proposed army is described as "a well-balanced, highly effective fighting force, co-ordinated from the front line to the rear echelons—a weapon forged and sharpened to play a great part when the time comes to strike."

There are in the active army at the present time nearly 300,000 men compared with a pre-war strength of 4,500 men. The cost of the army program in the fiscal year is estimated at nearly \$1,000 millions.

To place recruits to the new army in the branch for which they are best fitted, the army's recruiting system is being changed.

Previously a recruit was sent to the branch of the service in which he professed an interest. Otherwise he was assigned to a unit whose recruiting quota had not been filled. The result was often "a square peg in a round hole." Men who would have been excellent artillerymen might have been sent to the dental corps or infantry.

With personnel selection officers now being used by the army, the aptitudes and potentialities of each recruit will be scientifically determined. If he has special mental or physical qualifications he will be placed in a branch to give them the utmost scope.

Henceforth members of any one of the armed services who have been honorably discharged will be entitled to wear a war service badge "General Service Class" to signify that fact.

About 50,000 Canadian boys between the ages of 15 and 18 will be given the opportunity to attend camp this summer as part of the cadet corps training. The cadets' course requires for two hours study per school week on such subjects as parade ground training, instruction in small

arms, map reading, internal combustion engines, first aid and other subjects. The two year course the cadets are given is the equivalent of the basic training given soldiers in the active army. This corps will create a reservoir of partially trained men for the army and provide potential officer material.

The Air Force

CANADIAN airmen are taking part in aerial warfare on many world battlefronts. They are reaching war theatres in what Air Marshal W. A. Bishop describes as "staggering numbers".

With a long record of engagements to their credit Canada's fighting airmen, in less than two and a half years of war, have received 157 awards for bravery and distinguished conduct under fire, in addition to being mentioned 12 times in despatches.

Canadians have taken part in the major air battles of the past several months, in which the R.A.F. has been engaged; in Russia, the Far East, the Middle East, France and the English Channel, and over Germany. Canadian fighter pilots and bomber crews took part in the paratroop-commando raid on a German radiolocation station at Bruneval, France. Other Canadians were in the Channel fight which took place when two German battleships escaped from Brest.

All those Canadian airmen, whether in the R.C.A.F. or R.A.F. face the enemy with at least the equal in quality of training of any air force in the world.

THE HOME FRONT

Finance

CANADIAN war appropriations for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1943, will amount to \$2,000 millions, which compares with an estimate of \$1,450 millions in the current year. Added to Canada's own war expenditures of \$2,000 millions next year will be the \$1,000 millions gift of supplies Canada proposes to make to Great Britain. Non-war estimate for the forthcoming year are \$455 millions. Total outlay of the Dominion Government will

therefore total nearly \$3,500 millions, far surpassing any other budget in the Dominion's history and about seven times expenditures for a pre-war year.

Taking into consideration the minimum objective of the Second Victory Loan of \$600 millions, Canadians have loaned the Government more than \$2,100 millions to meet the tremendous cost of war.

Included in this total are war savings certificates totalling \$126 millions and war saving stamps amounting to \$4 millions. Sale of war savings certificates to February 28, 1942, according to provinces follows:

Prince Edward Island.....	\$ 455,675
Nova Scotia.....	6,208,875
New Brunswick.....	3,356,084
Quebec.....	23,375,713
Ontario.....	60,910,021
Manitoba.....	8,548,614
Saskatchewan.....	5,864,328
Alberta.....	7,052,833
British Columbia.....	10,554,293
	<hr/>
	\$126,326,436

War Charities

A major group of Canadian war charities organizations will be financed directly by the Dominion Government instead of by public voluntary support. The organizations are the Canadian Legion, the Knights of Columbus, the Salvation Army, the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., and the Navy League of Canada auxiliary services.

Before 1941 these organizations, with the exception of the Navy League, conducted national appeals for funds to carry on the work of their auxiliary services with the armed forces.

In March, 1941, they conducted a joint appeal for funds. The joint objective was set at \$5.5 millions, and about \$7 millions was collected. The funds were held by Canadian War Services Fund Incorporated and released as required. The Navy League was to have joined in the joint appeal this spring, as well as other organizations.

The appeal would have interrupted the Dominion Government's drive for war savings certificates, and as a result of this and other considerations it was decided to finance from the public treasury the war auxiliary services of the specified bodies. These organizations will, therefore, make no public appeal for funds this year.

The Canadian Red Cross Society is specifically exempt from this measure as the organization must continue to be of a voluntary nature to maintain its international character and its convention obligations.

Three of the organizations, the Salvation Army, the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A., have included in their appeals through the Canadian War Services Fund, funds for certain peacetime activities related to their war activities. These three organizations will have to finance these peacetime activities until other arrangements can be made.

The National War Charities Funds Advisory Board will continue to exercise control over the budgets and expenditures of the national auxiliary service organizations. Funds will be released to them as required by the Department of National War Services.

Controlling Prices

A Consumer Representation Branch of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has been established to clear with consumers problems arising in connection with their co-operation in maintaining the price ceiling and to give them representation in the development of policies and operations. Women's Regional Advisory Committees have been established in connection with each of the 13 Regional Offices of the Board.

In the struggle to hold the retail price ceiling in the face of cost increases resulting from war conditions, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board has consistently stressed the necessity of every possible economy being made by civilian industry and trade in cutting out "frills," standardizing styles, models, sizes and colors, simplifying products and wrappings, doing away with duplication and purely competitive costs. Some steps have already been taken in this direction and administrators have been given power to secure action along these lines. Now a special division of the board has been set up to systematize

the program and to give help to administrators and the 93 advisory committees, which are being set up in the various trades to co-operate in working out this program.

Increasingly acute scarcities, of rubber tires, for example, have brought to a head problems concerning price ceilings on used goods. The Board announced that used goods are under the ceiling and subject to the general price regulations in exactly the same way as new goods, though there are difficulties in connection with their lack of standardization. A special administrator, with very wide powers to regulate prices and supplies, has been appointed for used goods. In no case may the prices of used goods exceed the ceiling prices of similar new goods, and in some cases ceiling prices will be set at a lower level.

The problems arising in connection with sugar rationing for household use have been clarified and a substantial reduction in consumption has been secured. The "run" on sugar which followed the announcement of rationing has resulted in a number of prosecutions and fines in different parts of the country. A ration for industrial users of sugar has been set at 80% of the quantity which each used in the corresponding quarter of 1941.

The administrative machinery of the Board has been brought nearer completion with the establishment of sub-regional Offices in 23 cities and towns throughout the country. Others are in process of being set up.

Cost-of-Living Bonus

The official cost-of-living index declined one-tenth of a point between October 1, 1941 and January 2, 1942. The National War Labour Board has consequently announced that the existing cost-of-living bonuses will prevail for at least another three months, except in special cases. The Government has frozen basic wage rates, which are adjusted to wartime price levels by the rise or fall in the official cost-of-living index.

This index stood at 115.4 at January 2, (1935-39 = 100), compared with 115.8 at December 1; 116.3 at November 1, and 115.5 at October 1.

In the three months to January 2, which governed the payment of the bonus, the cost-of-living index dropped

one-tenth of a point. The change must be at least a full point before an adjustment is made on the living bonus paid to wage earners. Cost of living according to this index has risen 14.5% from August, 1939.

Donald Gordon, chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, warned that economic controls might not be wholly responsible for the drop saying:

"It reflects some normal seasonal trends and perhaps some effect of the price ceiling, but it is too early to throw our caps in the air and it is dangerously optimistic to think that the inflationary spiral is cut off".

Women in War Industry

FOR every fighting man on the battlefield or the high seas, modern warfare demands 17 of his comrades work in factories to provide him with equipment.

Today, as the number of actual combatants increases to meet the enlarging areas of warfare, a greater number of these "men behind the guns" will be women.

Canada's population of 11.5 millions is not large for the magnitude of the task she has undertaken. The three armed services will require 173,000 to 193,000 men in 1942. The demand for the weapons of war will rise and the men available to turn them out will diminish accordingly. Reserve of employable male workers still unemployed is nearing exhaustion. To reach the peak of war production, the Dominion must rely increasingly upon women for labor.

Approximately 75,000 women are now working in war industries, along with 600,000 men—the proportion varying according to the nature of the work from 3% of the total employed to about 60%. Starting mainly as inspectors, women have invaded every field of operation, except those where sheer strength is the prime requisite. They are making intricate radio and electrical devices, shell fuses, parachutes, and uniforms; they operate lathes and milling machines; they work in many sections of shell filling, explosives and chemical plants. In the vital aircraft production field their numbers have grown from a handful at the outbreak of war to a total larger than the pre-war total of all employees.

And while it is customary to associate female workers in aircraft plants with the sewing of fabric on airplane wings and fuselages, it is less well known that they now tackle the make-up of electrical wiring, rivetting, welding, and fitting of sub-assembling work on metal planes.

Women have to face a critical audience, and overcome a considerable amount of prejudice. The jobs that women have done compare favorably with those done by the men they have released for active service, it has been found. For certain kinds of work, requiring delicacy of touch, women's hands are defter. They exhibit greater patience than men in work which demands accurate and repetitive movements. There is developing a new demand for university women who have advanced training in mathematics, chemistry or radio, to fill many vacancies with the Inspection Board of the United Kingdom and Canada. About 250 women are already employed with the Board to inspect gun-barrels, gun carriage parts, fire control instruments, explosives and radio parts. Many more with technical training and education are being sought.

Supplementary Booklet

Booklet No. 12 is a supplement to No. 9, which was revised to December 1. Booklet No. 12 covers the month to March 1 and should be used with booklets No. 10 and No. 11 to obtain a cumulative record of Canada's war effort.

CANADIAN WAR HIGHLIGHTS OF 1941

- Jan: 8. Registration ordered of all Japanese in British Columbia.
- 14. Dominion-Provincial Conference in Ottawa on Rowell-Sirois Report breaks down.
- Feb: 13. Expenditure of \$20 millions on chain of airdromes from Alberta to Alaska announced.
- March 19. St. Lawrence Waterways Agreement signed.
- April 1. German ships Muenchen and Hermothis scuttled after attack by H.M.C.S. Prince Henry.
- 17. Completion of plans for joint defence of the coasts of Canada and the United States.
- 20. Hyde Park Declaration signed by Canada and the United States.
- 25. Orders placed for construction of 96 merchant ships of 10,000 tons each in Canadian shipyards.
- 26. All men given four months training under National Resources Mobilization Act retained.
- 29. Minister of Finance brings down the budget of \$2,350 millions for direct war.
- May 22. First Canadian-built heavy infantry tank completed at Angus Shops in Quebec.
- June 12. Work started on two destroyers to be built in Canadian shipyards.
- 14. Victory Loan 1941, totalling \$730 millions cash, closed.
- 17. Canada and the United States establish Joint Economic Committees.
- 22. Prime Minister's statement supports the U.S.S.R. against Germany.
- 30. First cruiser tank built in Canada delivered.
- July 1. First 25-pounder gun made in Canada delivered from Quebec plant.
- 2. First Canadian Tank Brigade landed in Britain.
- 26. Canada's Trade Pact with Japan terminated.
- Aug: 1. Third Division of Canadian Army landed in Britain.
- 9. War Minister announces mobilization of 6th Division.
- 21. First anti-aircraft gun made in Canada.
- Sept: 8. Canadian troops take part in raid on Spitzbergen.
- 27. H.M.C.S. Levis sunk by enemy action.
- Oct: 9. First 9,300-ton freighter, Ville Marie, launched at Montreal.
- 12. Instalment buying curb imposed.
- 18. Prime Minister announces ceiling on prices and basic wage rates.
- Nov: 1. National War Labour Board established.
- 16. Canadian troops reinforce Hong Kong garrison.
- Dec.: 1. All businesses licensed by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.
- 7. State of war declared between Canada and Hungary, Rumania and Finland. War declared on Japan.
- 10. Corvette Windflower sunk in collision.
- 24. Shipment of 50 Canadian-made tanks to Russia.
- 25. Hong Kong surrenders.
- 29. Prime Minister Churchill arrives in Ottawa.



High Flight

Pilot Officer John Magee, Jr., an American citizen, was killed on active service with the Royal Canadian Air Force on Dec. 11. This 19-year-old son of Rev. and Mrs. John Magee, Washington, D.C., gave up a scholarship at Yale to enlist in the R.C.A.F. in October, 1940.

In September, 1941, after a flight into the sub-stratosphere he scribbled this sonnet on the back of an envelope:

HIGH FLIGHT

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and
swung

High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless hall of air.

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, nor even eagle flew—
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high, untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

The original envelope-manuscript is now in the Library of Congress in a collection called "Poems of Freedom", which includes works of Burns, Clough, Longfellow, Walt Whitman and Shelley.



